GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3601
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2004
WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE FOR MEDICAL COLLEGES
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent a proposal to seek World Bank assistance for strengthening the quality of medical education and improving the physical infrastructure of Government Medical Colleges and attached hospitals;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Maharashtra has also clarified that the financial assistance can be used for renovation, procurement of essential equipments and teaching tools and networking with other institutions;

(c) whether the World Bank had raised some query about the same;

(d) if so, whether the Government has resolved the above query; and

(e) if so, the present status of the said proposal and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to get it cleared from the World Bank?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e): Government of Maharashtra had submitted a proposal in December, 2001 for strengthening the quality of medical education and improving the physical infrastructure of the Government medical colleges and attached hospitals for financial assistance of Rs. 550 crores from World Bank. The proposal was examined, in consultation with Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance), Planning Commission and World Bank. Department of Economic Affairs has communicated that the present focus of World Bank funding for health sector is on disease control, primary health, family welfare and immunization. Given the limited availability of World Bank funding, the external funding for Medical Colleges and attached Hospitals was not in line with priorities of World Bank funding for health sector in India.